

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7178

INFO USIA WASHDC

USUN NEW YORK 2030

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 10446

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, SOPN, IN

SUBJECT: NON-ALIGNED PRESS POOL: DRAFT LANGUAGE FOR

COLOMBO CONFERENCE

THE FOLLOWING PARAS WERE APPROVED BY THE PRESS POOL CONFERENCE
FOR INCLUSION IN THE NON-ALIGNED POLITICAL DECLARATION TO BE
APPROVED BY THE NAC IN COLOMBO:

QUOTE: A NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER IN THE FIELDS OF INFORMATION
AND MASS COMMUNICATIONS IS AS VITAL AS A NEW INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC ORDER.

NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES NOTE WITH CONCERN THE VAST AND EVER
GROWING GAP BETWEEN COMMUNICATION CAPACITIES IN NON-ALIGNED
COUNTRIES AND IN THE ADVANCED COUNTRIES WHICH IS A LEGACY OF
THEIR COLONIAL PAST. THIS HAS CREATED A SITUATION OF DEPENDENCE
AND DOMINATION IN WHICH THE MAJORITY OF COUNTRIES ARE REDUCED
TO BEING PASSIVE RECIPIENTS OF BIASED, INADEQUATE AND DIS-
TORTED INFORMATION. THE FULLER IDENTIFICATION AND
AFFIRMATION OF THEIR NATIONAL AND CULTURAL IDENTITY THUS
REQUIRES THEM TO RECTIFY THIS SERIOUS IMBALANCE AND TO TAKE
URGENT STEPS TO PROVIDE GREATER MOMENTUM IN THIS NEW AREA

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OF MUTUAL COOPERATION.

THE EMANCIPATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL INFORMATION MEDIA IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE OVERALL STRUGGLE FOR NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INDEPENDENCE FOR A LARGE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD WHO SHOULD NOT BE DENIED THE RIGHT TO INFORM AND TO BE INFORMED OBJECTIVELY AND CORRECTLY. SELF-RELIANCE IN SOURCES OF INFORMATION IS AS IMPORTANT AS TECHNOLOGICAL SELF-RELIANCE SINCE DEPENDENCE IN THE FIELD OF INFORMATION IN TURN RETARDS THE VERY ACHIEVEMENT OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC GROWTH.

NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES MUST ACHIEVE THESE OBJECTIVES THROUGH THEIR OWN EFFORTS AS WELL AS BY MORE ACTIVE CO-OPERATION ON A BILATERAL, REGIONAL AS WELL AS INTER-REGIONAL BASIS AND BY COORDINATING THEIR ACTIVITIES IN THE U.N. AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORUMS. IT IS PARTICULARLY NECESSARY FOR NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES TO STRENGTHEN THEIR EXISTING INFRA-STRUCTURE AND TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL BREAKTHROUGH ALREADY MADE IN THIS FIELD. THIS WOULD FACILITATE MORE COMPLETE DISSEMINATION OF OBJECTIVE INFORMATION AMONGST THEIR OWN PUBLIC AS WELL AS THE WORLD AT LARGE ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES IN THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND OTHER FIELDS AND THEIR GROWING ROLE IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

THE HEADS OF STATES AND GOVERNMENTS OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES WELCOME THE DECLARATION ADOPTED AND THE IMPORTANT DECISIONS TAKEN IN THIS FIELD AT THE CONFERENCE HELD IN NEW DELHI FROM 8-13 JULY 1976 AT THE HIGH POLITICAL LEVEL OF MINISTERS OF INFORMATION OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AND URGE THEIR EARLIEST POSSIBLE IMPLEMENTATION. UNQUOTE. SAXBE

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